



Department of Public Works

Ghassan Korban
Commissioner of Public Works

Preston D. Cole
Director of Operations

For Immediate Release:
Monday, September 29, 2014

Contact: Sandy Rusch Walton
414.286.3261 (o)
414.708.2386 (c)
slrusch@milwaukee.gov

Rake Your Leaves into the Street Beginning October 1, 2014

City of Milwaukee residents may start raking leaves into the curb lanes starting Wednesday, October 1. City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works (DPW) Sanitation crews will begin collecting the leaves on Monday, October 13. Leaf collection will end on Wednesday, November 26.

Leaves and brush, along with other yard waste, are banned from landfills and must not be placed in garbage or recycling carts. DPW collects leaves, brush and yard waste separately from garbage and composts it, which conserves natural resources while saving the City money. Residents are also encouraged to mulch leaves, and leave grass clippings on the lawn. This saves time and money, and adds nutrients to the soil.

Tips for a successful fall leaf collection:

- Keep leaves away from storm drains in the street
- Keep piles away from sewer grates
- Place garden debris on top of leaf piles
- Do not put leaves in plastic bags
- Do not put leaves in garbage carts
- Do not put brush into the street – call 286-CITY (2489) through November for a pick-up

Sanitation staff collects an average of 15,000 tons of leaves each year between mid-October and the first week of December. Last year 15,250 tons of leaves were collected.

By mid-October, all City of Milwaukee households of four or fewer units should receive a DPW Fall 2014 newsletter in the mail. This newsletter includes important information on:

- Year-round curbside set-out of garbage carts
- Often overlooked recyclable items to place in your recycling cart
- Composting tips
- How to properly dispose of many household items, and
- Hours and locations of City drop-off sites for leaves, brush, old furniture and more.

###

